CHAPTER XXXIV

THE WAR WITH PRUSSIA [1]

The Prussian Despotism — State of Society — The Patriots — The Liberals — The Execution of Palm — The Prussian Court and the Nation — Demoralization of the Army — The Conduct of Napoleon — War Inevitable — The French Army — Napoleon's Strategic Plan — Prussian Feebleness — Napoleon's System of Travel — His Life in the Field — Another Campaign of Marching — The Affair at Schleiz — The Prussians Outflanked — French Soldiers in the Leash — The Battle of Jena — Davout and Bernadotte — The Battle of Auerstadt — Rout of the Prussian Army.

T^REDERICK WILLIAM I of Prussia built up a JL system of admirable simplicity and economy in civil administration, which enabled him to lavish proportionately large sums on the finest army of the day. This instrument his brilliant son, Frederick the Great, used to increase the Prussian territories by an area of seventy-five thousand square miles; and when he died, having pursued his father's policy, he left his country without a debt, with a reserve of nearly forty-five million dollars in her treasury, and with a greatly increased income. His nephew and successor, Frederick William

1 Gentz: Ausgewahlte Schrif- 1806-07; Desvernois: M6moires; ten; Garden: Trace's; Bailleu: Hansing: Hardenberg und die FrankreichundPreussen; Harden- Dritte Coalition; Bonnal: La Ma-berg's Denkwiirdigkeiten; Czar- noeuvre de Jena; Gourgaud: Sainte toryski: M&noires; Foucart: Cam- H61ene; Lecestre: Lettres incites; pagne de Prusse; Fitzmaurice: Davout: Correspondance, etc., Duke of Brunswick; Hohenlohe: Operations du 3e Corps, 1806-07; Letters on Strategy (Eng. ed.); the works of Oncken and Roc-Lettow-Vorbeck: Der Krieg von quain.